Ottawa metro

Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, OCTOBER 2-4, 2015 | High 14°C /Low 0°C Sunny

READY TO ENGAGE

'There's no national strategy to address police violence.'

DAILY ELECTION PAGE in metroNEWS

'Don't go to school tomorrow'

WARNING MAY HAVE BEEN SENT BEFORE DEADLY OREGON ATTACK

See page 16 in metroNEWS

Tories aim to correct 'false information'

ELECTION 2015

Poilievre unveils open letter to public service from PM

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

The Conservatives became the latest political party to reach out to federal public servants on Thursday, an important voting bloc in several Ottawa ridings.

Cabinet minister Pierre Poilievre held a news conference to correct what he described as "false information" from "partisan union chiefs" about the government's plans for sick leave and pensions. He unveiled an open letter from Prime Minister Stephen Harper to the public service.

In the letter, Harper praises Canada's "world-class public service," and says the government has been proud of their work and worked with them to create a workplace "where good work is recognized, red tape is removed, and benefits meet real needs."

On sick leave, a hot-button issue, Harper said the notion that public servants' accumulated sick days will disappear "is not true." Rather, they will be assigned an extra value under a new system.

"The current, antiquated sick-leave system is failing everyone," Harper said.

The government booked $900 million in sick-leave savings in this year's budget and introduced legislation, which is being challenged in court from public service unions, that would allow it to impose a new short-term disability regime.

On pensions, Harper said the government "will not be moving away from the current defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan, target benefit plan, or any other shared-risk model."

However, Public Service Alliance of Canada national president Robyn Benson said the government is drafting legislation to allow conversion of pensions from defined benefit plans to target benefit plans for federally regulated workplaces.

She said public service employees have the right to be concerned. She also said the federal government has treated public service workers with "disdain and disrespect," and the open letter is "too little, too late."

Poilievre also attacked the Liberals, whose plan he said would mean cuts to the public service.

"The biggest threat to public servants is Justin Trudeau's plan to spend $25 billion that he doesn't have," Poilievre said. "By adding three deficits and billions in debt, he's going to have to cut public service jobs just a few years down the road."

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OCTOBER 1–25

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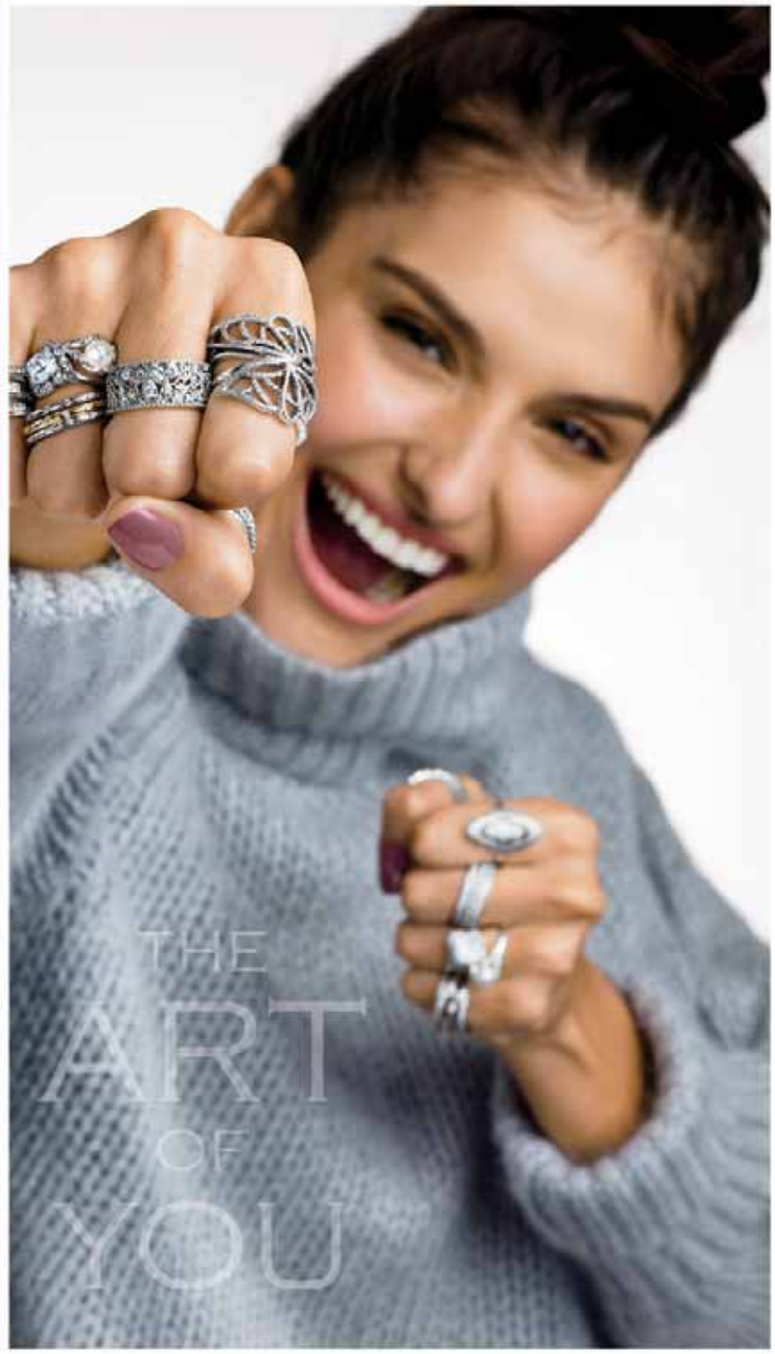

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metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

Behold Pluto's big rugged moon Charon in this new image from NASA.

Max Keeping dies

CANCER

'Champion for children' leaves a legacy behind at 73

Joe Lofaro and Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

Former CTV Ottawa anchor Max Keeping died Thursday after a long fight with cancer. He was 73.

The longtime TV personality was an Ottawa institution who, after leaving his chair at the anchor desk, dedicated his life to charity work and forming his own foundation.

Keeping was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2003. He was lauded for his personal reporting about his disease and for raising awareness about the importance of early diagnosis.

In 2012, he had surgery and treatment for colorectal cancer. Last year, he announced the cancer was back, had spread to his lungs and was untreatable.

His worsening condition forced him to step aside from his charitable work and to dissolve the Max Keeping Foundation, which he spearheaded 18 years ago.

The foundation has helped thousands of less-fortunate kids get involved in organized activities.

It handed over the last $150,000 cheque to the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) in February after Keeping lost his ability to verbally communicate.

Max Keeping dedicated most of his life after journalism to improving the lives of kids in the community, even after his diagnosis. MAX KEEPING FOUNDATION/FLICKR

> **Ottawa has been blessed to have Max Keeping as an important part of its local family.**
> Mayor Jim Watson

In February, CHEO announced the new Max Keeping Fund for Kids, which helps families in need of financial support while their kids undergo diagnosis and treatment at the hospital.

Former co-anchor Carol Ann Meehan said Keeping passed away surrounded by his family.

"It is with a heavy heart that I tell you Max Keeping, who made a difference in so many lives, passed away today" Meehan tweeted shortly before going on air Thursday evening.

Condolences for Keeping's family and friends poured in as word of his passing spread.

In a statement, Mayor Jim Watson said, "Ottawa has been blessed to have Max Keeping as an important part of its local family for as long as anyone can remember."

He said Keeping "devoted every part of himself to the people and the challenges around him.

"Even as Max battled cancer in recent years, he did so with his trademark brand of positivity," Watson added.

"As we remember Max, we will remember a man who encouraged us all to reach higher and dream bigger."

For decades, Keeping devoted much of his time and energy to CHEO, which named a new wing after him in 2003.

"Kids in our community have lost one of their biggest champions. CHEO has lost its most ardent supporter," hospital chief executive Alex Munter said in a statement.

"Max's legacy will be felt by kids for generations to come.... Everyone at CHEO shares in our community's grief over the loss of a true advocate and champion for children and youth."

Munter said Keeping's final gesture of support was an endowment to support children and families in need.

"Even though Max will no longer be here to champion his favourite cause, the CHEO community is grateful and humbled by his support."

Visitors will be able to sign a book of condolences at the entrance to the hospital's Max Keeping wing.

URBAN NATURE

Exhibit explores city through fresh eyes

Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

If you're looking for Eryn O'Neill, try an urban path or perhaps the great lawn at Lansdowne.

She'll be the one with the camera, possibly photographing empty benches or overgrown planters. But don't judge: the full-time artist has turned those photos into a new solo show, which opened at the Orange Gallery in Hintonburg on Thursday night.

Her 16 oil paintings all centre on the relationship between man-made and natural features.

Ottawa residents will be familiar with most scenes: O'Neill paid special attention to Lansdowne Park and the Canadian War Museum, two spots she said have been good at combining urban and natural elements.

"It's kind of nice to be walking around and seeing these developments around the city that are bringing back these elements where you can sit and enjoy the space," she said.

She features, for example, a circular bench at Lansdowne — a design organic in nature but also inviting for people who want to talk. O'Neill's work also highlights a different aspect of urban nature: sheer force of will.

"Nature always wants to take back; it will always try to win that battle," O'Neill said. Case in point: one of her favourites works in the show is of an abandoned, overgrown dumpster.

Until now, O'Neill's work has simply focused on urban vistas, without a natural focus.

But all that changed when she visited the High Line in New York City. The raised train tracks had been out of use for several decades, and nature had taken over. But in the early 2000s, the city transformed the tracks into a public park through the city's Lower East Side, incorporating many of the natural elements that had cropped up over its years of neglect. Returning to Ottawa, O'Neill noticed that the capital, too, is flush with urban nature.

The exhibit will be open until Oct. 18.

Nature takes over an Ottawa dumpster in this painting by local artist Eryn O'Neill. CONTRIBUTED

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5 THINGS TO DO IN OTTAWA THIS WEEKEND

It's finally October, and the spooky season has begun. If you missed out on tickets to Beau's Oktoberfest this weekend, doesn't despair, there's lots more to do. This weekend is full of early Halloween fun, including exploding pumpkins, and zombies in the downtown.

HALEY RITCHIE METRO

1 Butterflies (all weekend)

The breathtaking butterfly show at Carleton University takes off this Saturday, starting at 9 a.m. The 10-day show features 1,300 butterflies released in the Nesbitt Biology Building on the university campus. The show is free and children are welcome, but lineups can be long so go early.

2 Pumpkin Smash (Sunday)

It's October and Halloween season is here. If you're done apple picking and are feeling a little destructive over the weekend, why not check out the Cumberland Heritage Village Museum's annual pumpkin smash? Featuring a "new and improved catapult" the event starts Sunday, Oct. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

3 Families of Sisters in Spirit Vigil (Sunday)

The annual Sisters in Spirit vigil to honour missing and murdered aboriginal women and girls takes place Sunday, Oct. 4. The Native Women's Association of Canada has gathered information about the disappearances and murders of more than 580 women and girls since March 31, 2010. Supporters will gather on Parliament Hill starting at 11:30 a.m. to honour and remember the missing and call for more action from the federal government. The Carleton University Art Gallery is currently exhibiting 1,800 pairs of moccasin vamps, created by artists across Canada, to remember missing women and girls through traditional art. The exhibition remains open until Oct. 16.

VAMPS BY JAIME KOEBEL; PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRISTI BELCOURT

4 Ottawa Geek Market/Capital Gaming Expo (all weekend)

Gamers and geeks rejoice, all weekend long. Starting Saturday the "Ottawa's premier festival of all things geeky" arrives at the Nepean Sportsplex with the Capital Gaming Expo set up next door. That includes geeky vendors serving up all manner of sci-fi, fantasy, comics, anime, steampunk and horror merch. There will also be cosplay, panel discussions and crafts. The full weekend pass is $30 in advance, and the event starts at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

5 Zombies Walk/Race (all weekend)

Zombies are taking over the capital all weekend, with two events planned for the fans of the undead. The first event on Saturday is a 5K obstacle course, with funds raised going to Habitat for Humanity. The race takes place at the Log Farm, 670 Cedwarview Rd., in Nepean. For those looking for a more laid-back gory stroll, the free, all-age Zombie Walk starts Sunday, Oct. 4 in Lisgar Field, right outside City Hall. The event starts at noon, and the walk from City Hall to Parliament Hill starts at 4 p.m. Costumes and makeup are encouraged.

Christopher Schafer
Public Policy Manager
for Uber Canada

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metro The Syrian Crisis

City launches Refugee 613 sponsor hub

Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

The City of Ottawa has launched a new program to help aspiring Syrian refugee sponsors sift through the complex and confusing bureaucracy.

Refugee 613 will provide information on how to volunteer, donate, apply for sponsorship and more. It's like a short-term version of Lifeline Syria, a Toronto-based group that helps co-ordinate sponsorship efforts.

The program's director, Louisa Taylor, called it a "great start" and a "work in progress."

"Ottawa now has a central hub to go to for information," she said on Thursday evening at a packed Syrian-refugee forum.

Hundreds flooded Ottawa City Hall, looking for ways to help the resettlement efforts.

Many signed up for one-on-one sessions with 40 pro-bono lawyers, law students and sponsorship experts. Others listened in on presentations from community groups and a recently sponsored refugee.

Mayor Jim Watson said he was "touched and overwhelmed" by the turnout, which the city estimated at more than 1,000 people.

United Way Ottawa, the Community Foundation of Ottawa, the city and Refugee 613 also launched a new fundraising campaign, United for Refugees, on Thursday.

"By doing this citywide fundraising, we can help subsidize or cross-subsidize those groups," Watson said.

According to UN figures, there are more than four million Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Egypt, Iraq and North Africa.

Here in Canada, it costs about $27,000 to cover the expenses and start-up costs to sponsor a refugee family of four.

Carleton Conservative candidate Pierre Poilievre speaks at a news conference Thursday, flanked by other Ottawa-area Conservative candidates. MICHAEL WOODS/METRO

Tories not taking part in debates

ELECTION 2015

Candidates too busy to discuss issues, suggests Poilievre

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

Every local Conservative candidate is too busy knocking on doors to attend next week's debate on municipal issues at city hall, Pierre Poilievre suggested Thursday.

Asked why the Tories aren't sending a candidate to the Oct. 5 debate in Ottawa, Carleton incumbent Poilievre said they have done "dozens of debates" across the city.

"Of course, even with all these debates, our No. 1 priority is the literally tens of thousands of job interviews that we do on the doorstep," he told reporters at a news conference. "That's where our priority will be in the next several weeks leading up to the election."

Mayor Jim Watson invited the parties to send one candidate each to next week's debate, which will cover matters of importance to the city, such as housing, transit and infrastructure funding.

Earlier this week, Watson called it "disappointing" that the Conservatives couldn't spare one local candidate for an hour to discuss municipal issues.

Poilievre said the candidates plan on attending more debates.

"I think I've personally attended six or seven and I'm looking forward to the additional debates that are going to be held throughout the city," he said.

However, he did not specify why they are skipping the one at city hall.

"Every single resident and citizen of this great city of ours will have an occasion to interact with all of our candidates," Poilievre said.

Ottawa Centre Liberal candidate Catherine McKenna, Ottawa-Vanier NDP candidate Emilie Taman and Nepean Green candidate Jean-Luc Cooke will be participating in the debate.

IN BRIEF

Ottawa to share research from taxi bylaw review

The research and consultation phases of the city's taxi bylaw review are "well underway" and the public will soon be able to see some of the research, the mayor's office said Thursday.

The review of taxi regulations was sparked by the controversial arrival of ride-sharing service Uber, which connects people with independent, unregulated drivers through a smartphone app. In an email, the city said the review is expected to be completed within the next 90 days, with discussion papers being posted on ottawa.ca in the coming weeks.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

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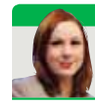
Liberal leader Justin Trudeau walks with local candidates Steven Mackinnon, left, and Greg Fergus as they head to a news conference Sept. 1 in Gatineau, Que. THE CANADIAN PRESS

From line dancing to shooting hoops

ELECTION 2015

Candidates discuss their door-knocking experiences



POLITICAL BUZZ

Jessica Murphy

Local candidates are spending long hours on the campaign trail meeting as many voters as they can and so, inevitably, some experiences stand out.

One memorable experience for Gatineau Liberal candidate Steve Mackinnon was a whirlwind — dancing at a country-western themed barbecue at a seniors' residence.

"It was quite surreal — everyone in a cowboy hat, hamburgers, hot dogs, corn on the cob and that kind of thing. And there was a guy there doing old George Jones covers on the karaoke machine — so I was pressed into line dancing and square dancing," he said.

Mackinnon, a former federal Liberal party national director who's taking on incumbent New Democrat Francoise Boivin for a second time in the Quebec riding, conceded his dance floor skills are unlikely to sway voters.

Conservative Abdul Abdi, a police officer running in Ottawa West-Nepean, remembers taking an impromptu basketball break from door-knocking with a neighbourhood kid who had a net in his driveway.

"My volunteers were door-knocking a couple of doors down and I just gravitated to the kid — he was about 11 — and I shot a few hoops with him," he said.

Abdi said the kid's mother eventually came out and he introduced himself and gave his election spiel.

"Fast forward, she's undecided, hasn't made up her mind (who to vote for). And the son and I make a deal. He says: 'Mom, if I make this shot, you vote for Abdul.' And what do you know, first shot, nothing but net."

For NDP hopeful John Hansen, one standout moment came while door-knocking in his Kanata-Carleton riding.

> **If I'm being evaluated on dancing ability, I have no hope.**
> Liberal candidate Steve Mackinnon

He approached a man who already had a Liberal sign on his lawn, but Hansen — a business executive who also ran provincially for the party in 2014 — wasn't about to be deterred.

Still, Hansen admits he was surprised at the man happily accepted his offer of a New Democrat lawn sign.

"His point was he was supporting democracy," Hansen said.

HEALTH CARE

NDP, Tories warn against fee cuts

Cuts to doctors' fees that took effect Thursday triggered dire warnings from Ontario physicians and the opposition parties about longer wait times for patients.

The Ontario government has cut funding for physician services by a total of 6.9 per cent since February, "which includes across-the-board cuts and a number of targeted cuts that affect specific specialties," said OMA president Dr. Michael Toth.

Progressive Conservative Leader Patrick Brown told the legislature the Liberals took $235 million from "patient care" by cutting the fees paid to doctors, and have trimmed over $800 million from health-care spending this year.

The New Democrats said the government needs to recognize that doctors should be properly compensated for the care they provide.

The government insisted there are no cuts to patient care in its latest round of fee cuts for physicians.

Health Minister Eric Hoskins said Ontario doctors — who make an average of $368,000 a year — are the highest paid in Canada, and are being asked to take a small fee cut to help free up money for other health-care needs.

The OMA said the government's fee cuts come as the number of new patients in Ontario jumps by 140,000 every year with a growing and aging population, and an estimated 800,000 Ontarians still don't have a family doctor.

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Alberta Premier Rachel Notley, left, and Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne during a media availability at Queen's Park in Toronto on Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Eye-to-eye on emissions

ENVIRONMENT

Premiers agree to fight climate change in their own ways

Ontario and Alberta have different approaches on climate change, but agree reducing greenhouse gases is a key issue linked directly to the economy, Premiers Kathleen Wynne and Rachel Notley said after meeting in Toronto Thursday.

"We talked about our shared commitment to addressing issues around environmental protection and climate change," said Notley.

Alberta has a climate change review panel doing consultations with all sectors of the economy, including the energy industry, and is looking at reducing the amount of coal it burns to generate electricity, she added.

"It's also looking at what we do with respect to energy efficiency and with respect to renewable energy," said Notley. "Those are two areas under the previous government that were not developed at all from the perspective of government policy."

Alberta will develop a policy that balances environmental stewardship with ensuring "sustainable and economically healthy growth" of the province's energy sector, added Notley.

Ontario already closed all its coal-fired electrical generating stations and has decided to implement a cap-and-trade system to further reduce greenhouse gases, while Alberta already has carbon pricing.

"What's important from our perspective is that we're all taking action, and it's consistent with the Canadian energy strategy that we are putting our own sub-national strategies in place," said Wynne. "A real reduction of emissions is our goal."

Notley said she supports NDP Leader Tom Mulcair's proposed national carbon trading system to combat greenhouse gas emissions because it would let provinces opt out if their efforts that are as good as or better than his plan. THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **A real reduction of emissions is our goal.**
> Kathleen Wynne

IN BRIEF

Ontario budgets $50M a year to fund IVF treatments
Ontario will spend $50 million a year to expanding coverage of in vitro fertilization to help about 4,000 would-be parents grow their families.

Health Minister Eric Hoskins says anyone with fertility problems, "including non-medical factors" such as same-sex couples and single people, will be able to access one round of IVF. Currently Ontario funds IVF treatments, which cost up to $10,000 a cycle, only for women with blocked fallopian tubes, but Hoskins says that will change starting in December. THE CANADIAN PRESS

WINTER PARKING

Changes proposed to cope with storms

Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

The city's on-street parking fees could double this winter, but if you live downtown you might still be able to park for free when the snow falls.

A report heading to transportation committee next Wednesday lays out a host of changes to help street crews better deal with winter storms, particularly when they call for an overnight parking ban.

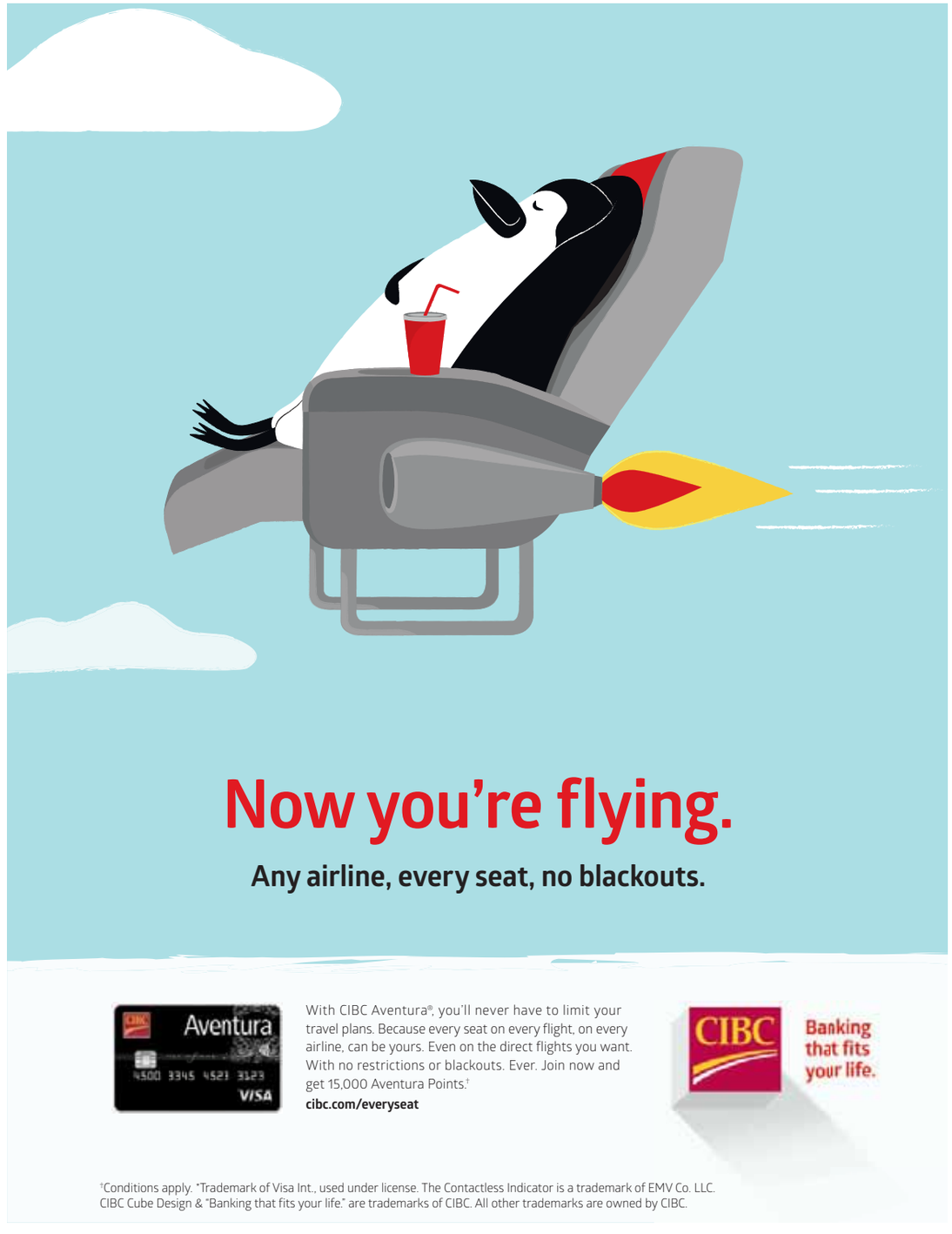
The most drastic change would cancel the year-round $59 monthly fee for on-street parking permits, instead slashing summer fees in half to $30 a month, and more than doubling winter fees to $140 a month. That's because many more people buy permits in the winter — knowing they need them to avoid overnight bans — and the city wants to encourage as many cars off the street as possible.

But residents unwilling to pay hefty permit fees this winter could also take advantage of more free parking at three downtown city garages during parking bans: 70 and 141 Clarence St. in the ByWard Market and 114 Laurier St., under city hall.

This initiative will cost the city a nominal amount — likely less than $4,000 over a season — offset by getting more cars off the street and allowing crews to clear snow properly the first time instead of having to do multiple passes.

"(This) will serve as a mutually beneficial arrangement between the city and its residents, as well as significantly increase compliance with the parking restrictions," the report said.

The raising of fines to $95 from $85 is also expected to keep cars off the road. If approved, the changes will take effect Nov. 15.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The art of cultural diversity

Neighbourhood profiles 2015: In the sixth instalment of Metro's profiles, Haley Ritchie heads to Chinatown to find out about the issues that matter to this colourful neighbourhood

Election season comes with lots of complaints about the clutter of candidate signage — but there's one neighbourhood that is already so cluttered and colourful that signs give it some visual cohesion.

Welcome to Ottawa's Chinatown, a place with arguably more murals and public art per square foot than any other place in the city.

"If you walk around, the murals show that it's not just Canadian, Chinese or Vietnamese. It's a good thing, it reflects the diversity," says Kenny Giang, the owner of Oriental Charm on Somerset Street.

Like the storefronts outside his shop and the people on the streets, Giang's wares reflect many different countries including China, India, Korea, Vietnam and Japan.

Giang's story is part of the history of the enclave — he's Vietnamese and Chinese, and came to Canada as part of the City of Ottawa's "Project 4000" in the early 1980s.

At that time, close to 3,800 Vietnamese refugees were welcomed to the city, a project spearheaded by former mayor Marion Dewar.

Her son, Paul Dewar, is the current MP for Ottawa-Centre and his campaign headquarters are in the middle of Chinatown. Dewar's orange NDP signage now jostles for space beside Catherine McKenna's Liberal red, Damian Kostantinakos' Tory blue, and all manner of Asian products advertised in store windows along the strip.

Some of the businesses have interesting stories that intertwine with the country and the city's political history.

Today, one of the area's oldest businesses, the Shanghai Restaurant, offers a lot more than dumplings and pad Thai — everything from karaoke night, to bingo, to drag performances and live music.

The iconic arch entrance welcomes visitors to a enclave that is both ethnically and politically diverse. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

The arch
Ottawa's spectacular imperial arch was built in 2010, complete with guardian stone lions. Chinese characters spell "Ottawa Chinatown" in the central panel and dragons, phoenixes, and other mythical creatures make a home in the colourful monument. Canadian and Chinese workers alike helped with the project, which was built as part of a "twin-city" initiative between Ottawa and Beijing.

The original owner of the restaurant, Alan Kwan, was one of the Vietnamese immigrants brought to the city by Marion Dewar's Project 4000. Former prime minister Pierre Trudeau once dined at the restaurant.

The political views in the neighbourhood are just as diverse as everything else on the street.

Shanghai's co-owner Mabe Kwan said she's considering voting Libertarian this year, tired of the same political choices that don't seem to change.

"I looked up Dean Harris, the Libertarian, and he seems like a decent candidate," she said, adding that she offered to put a poster in her window or launch a fundraiser but never heard back.

"I've been Liberal because I did that thing where your parents vote Liberal, so you do as well. They all make promises, but I'm tired of the three options that are basically one option. They do the same thing in a different colour," she says.

Federal politics and the history of the commercial area of Chinatown is only one part of the neighbourhood.

The area has a lot in common with older parts of downtown like Sandy Hill, Centretown and the Glebe. But unlike wealthier downtown neighbourhoods, West Centretown's earliest history is working class.

There are still many stately and well-aged brick houses, but lower rent prices made the area attractive to many diverse groups of immigrants starting at the turn of the 20th century. Today it offers plenty of affordable housing to lower-income groups and students.

The diversity is something residents are proud of, but it means the city views the enclave differently than wealthier neighbourhoods.

"What bothers us is when there is a double standard," explains long-time resident Ida Henderson, who maintains gardens for the community association.

"We live downtown and we expect certain things, but you don't see the same sort of garbage problems in the Glebe," she says. "This has always been a large immigrant community and it has low-income residents so there's an automatic disregard. Part of it is because we're so mixed and we have low-income housing, that's the reality."

"I love living here. It's got great people in it and the diversity of the neighbourhood is great," she says.

The constant mural projects commissioned by the local Business Improvement Association and the ornate imperial Chinese arch distract from some of the more run-down portions of the street.

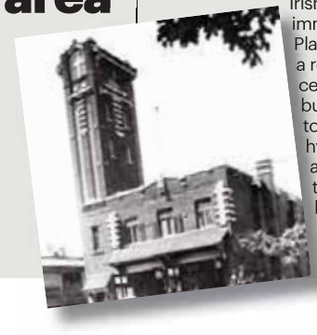
Gentrification surrounds Chinatown but has yet to take hold. The area has chronic parking issues that bother both residents and business owners. Restrictive zoning and height limits don't promote sky-high growth, but would-be developers are in for a battle with many residents who don't want to lose the residential feel of the area.

Developer Phoenix Homes has plans to build a nine-storey rental property along the main strip.

It wouldn't be the first time that a wayside neighbourhood turned artsy enclave became another hot neighbourhood in Ottawa.

A brief history of the area

The beginning
The area known as Chinatown was, until recently, more commonly referred to as Somerset Heights. The history of the area started with non-Asian immigrants: it was composed of working-class Irish and Italian immigrants. The Plant Bath, now a recreation centre, was built in 1924 to promote hygiene among the area's lower-class residents.



1950s
Chinese immigration to Ottawa was slow and for a long time, the community was more spread out. In the 1900s many opened Laundromats and restaurants. At one point, Albert Street was the real "Chinatown" in Ottawa. Chinese immigration boomed after the Second World War and the Shanghai Restaurant on Somerset, which remains open, was one of the first Chinese businesses to open on the street.

1980s: Vietnamese Immigration
The late 1970s and early 1980s saw Ottawa welcoming a large number of refugees fleeing the Vietnam War. The City of Ottawa began Project 4000, bringing nearly 4,000 Vietnamese "Boat People" to the city. Many settled in Chinatown and continue to operate businesses there today. The project wasn't universally accepted — 500 Centretown residents signed a petition fearing their property values would be reduced because of the newcomers.

1990s: Becoming Chinatown
By 1896 Asian immigrants formed a quarter of all the residents of the Dalhousie North neighbourhood. Debates took place over whether Somerset should become an official "Chinatown" or continue to grow as an organically multicultural area — official plans were dropped at the time, but the concept stuck. Eventually the area received an official designation, complete with street signs and an imperial Chinese arch.

2015: Chinatown today
Today Chinatown remains distinct — the air is dominated by the smell of pho and many storefronts advertise only in Asian calligraphy. But the neighbourhood is still changing. New immigrants are more likely to settle in the suburbs than the downtown core and new condo developments are inching ever closer.

QUICK VIEW: Chinatown

1 Murals
Chinatown might have the most murals of any neighbourhood in the city. The variety of art you'll see walking around the area is impressive, including towering pandas, decorated elephants, landscapes and sunsets, colourful abstract swirls and even a painting of an octopus invading the neighbourhood.

2 Chinatown Remixed
Chinatown has several festivals and important events during the year that are always colourful and artistic. Chinatown Remixed, starting with a nighttime block party in September, brings local art installations into the Somerset Street businesses. There's also an annual mid-autumn festival and Winterlude Lunar New Year parade.

3 Shanghai Restaurant
For many who live outside Chinatown, the area is best known for the wide variety of Asian cuisine. Restaurants along Somerset Street include Japanese, Thai, Indian, Korean, Vietnamese and Chinese foods. They're also community hubs — the Shanghai Restaurant offers many events throughout the year and every Saturday night features karaoke with the strip's own drag queen, China Doll.

4 Plant Bath
The plant recreation centre is right on the border of Little Italy and Chinatown. After a renovation in 2004, a new community centre is attached to the heritage building equipped with two pools, a hot tub, steam bath, gym and community meeting rooms.

Street level: How does the community feel about the election?

"Corporations have a lot of control in the government. As far as I'm concerned, whoever they elect might have some good ideas, but if it doesn't suit them they'll have to bend. One thing I'd like them to do is take care of charity at home before you start doing charity away. If there's room, we'll help, but charity starts at home."
Claude Doucet, resident of 10 years

"One of the big issues for communities is there's only one taxpayer. We pay for municipal, provincial and federal. But the municipal level does not get a big chunk of all the tax money. It's hard to convince, particularly these feds, that infrastructure is a big deal." Ida Henderson, retired public servant

"Chinatown is multicultural, it's an Asian village. If you walk around, the murals show that. It's not just Canadian, Chinese or Vietnamese. It's a good thing, it reflects the diversity."
Kenny Giang, owner of Oriental Charm

Saturday Oct. 3:
"Stone" Soup by The Table Community Food Centre in support of "Restaurants for Change" (11am-2pm)
Mini pumpkin decorating station (1pm-4pm)
Pumpkin carving demo by artist Mowafak Nema (2:30pm–4pm)
Sunday Oct. 4:
Live Culinary Demo by Chef Eva Bee (1pm-3pm)
Family programming (1pm-4pm)
With a special outdoor screening of The Nightmare Before Christmas on Friday, October 2nd (6:30pm)

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Ottawa

READY TO ENGAGE

Metro's coast to coast daily election series connects young, urban Canadians to the issues they care about

No party has anything 'really bold and innovative'

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
in Toronto

Politics is fireworks to Rodney Diverlus — but this election is a dud.

That is why Diverlus, a hyper-passionate 25-year-old dancer and co-founder of Black Lives Matter Toronto, can both tear through an interview on the election, speaking in loud rapid-fire, and end up not voting for anyone.

In the midst of what he calls a supremely boring campaign, filled with parties and politicians who either don't speak to his issues, or don't represent his people — or do neither — Diverlus says he could conceivably hand Elections Canada a blank ballot.

"There's nothing bold, there's nothing exciting. None of the parties are offering anything really bold and innovative that are getting people to the polls that haven't been to the polls before," he tells me on the phone from Edmonton, where he's performing with Decidedly Jazz Danceworks.

At the core of Diverlus's politics is the policing of visible minorities, and in particular black Canadians.

"There's no national strategy to address police violence, and few accountability measures for the way police interact with black communities," he says. What is a national conversation in the U.S. remains siloed in individual Canadian communities, he argues.

He's concerned with Canada's penal system, too. Mandatory minimum sentences, he says, "put people in a box and say, 'You're not worthy of society.'" He imagines a system built more on restorative justice and reintegration, one that recognizes homelessness, poverty and desperation as root causes.

Diverlus, a recent university graduate, says his other key issue lies in his "30-plus-thousand dollars of debt" and how, if at all, the federal leaders plan to help him.

(After this interview was conducted, NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair announced a promise to gradually phase out interest on federal student loans.)

He knows the Greens are promising to relieve debt and end post-secondary tuition fees, but the party is "not even a close fourth."

He also doesn't relate to the Greens' "left-wing, white, hipster environmentalist" image. For that matter, he sees a "major lack of representation of racialized, indigenous and black folks" in all the major parties. (In 2011, visible minorities were only 9 per cent of elected MPs).

On the Conservatives: "Oh, gosh. Uhh..."

Aside from not aligning with "98 per cent" of his values, the party, he says, is running a campaign of "quick headlines, rapid points, fear mongering."

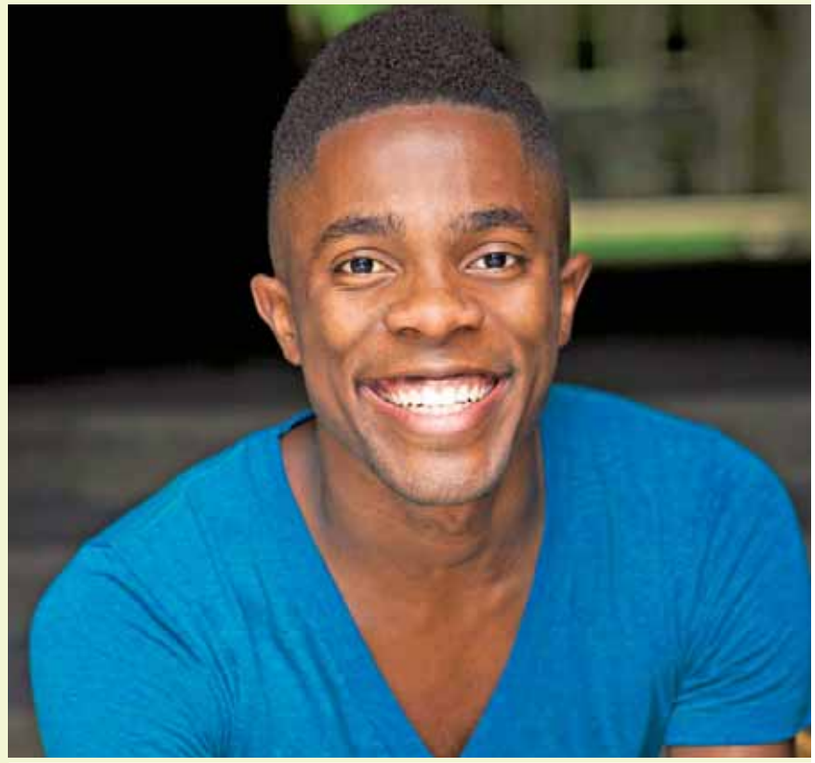
And he finds the Liberals hard to pin: "We're kind of left, kind of right, kind of supporting social services, kind of supporting corporations and military. We have our hands in community pockets, we have our hands in corporate pockets."

The NDP used to be a possible home for his vote, but he's seen the party move to the right, he says, and abandon its leftist base.

There's still time for politicians to speak to his issues, he notes. But he's not waking up wondering if today will be the day he dies in a terrorist attack. "I say, 'Will this be the day I have a negative interaction with the police? How will I pay down my student debt?'"

It might be a big election, but Diverlus sees far more hope in the day-to-day politics of community groups and local activism, the politics of "individual lives."

Rosemary Westwood is travelling across the country talking to young voters. She'll be in Toronto again tomorrow.



VOTER PROFILE

Name: Rodney Diverlus **Age:** 25 **Riding:** Spadina-Fort York
His issues: Justice-system reform, student-loan reform

Debate over minimum wage rages on campaign trail

INCOME

Getting paid enough to live is top issue for those in poverty

Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

For Dexter LaPlante the defining issue in this federal election is wages.

The 25-year-old recently left his 1-1/2-year-old son and girlfriend in Saskatoon for Winnipeg in the hopes of setting up a new life in the city for his young family.

But it's a struggle — he's going to school full-time to finish his Grade 12, lives in a one-room suite with his brother in Winnipeg's rough North End, and works a part-time job at night for a minimum wage that he says doesn't leave him with enough to live on.

"We've got to make sacrifices," said LaPlante, explaining when it comes to whether he can make rent, get to classes, or eat, the last priority is often food. "Just the other day I went to the food bank for food because I just moved in and we're starting from nothing."

LaPlante says he'll vote in the upcoming federal election and is interested in NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair's promise to raise to $15 the minimum wage for employees in federally regulated industries such as rail and air transportation, telecommunications, banks and uranium mining.

A hike to Manitoba's minimum wage Thursday brought LaPlante's hourly pay to $11.

Mulcair's pledge has come under fire because provinces would still control the minimum wage for jobs like LaPlante's, but Manitoba Federation of Labour president Kevin Rebeck calls it a good start.

"The federal change would impact about 100,000 people across Canada, but it also sets a benchmark for provinces," he said. "It would set the tone for provincial governments to say, 'Hey, shouldn't that apply in the provinces, too?"

> **What I'd rather have ... is them say, 'Here's a basic income and we guarantee it for all Canadians'.**
> David Northcott

Others, like David Northcott, who heads up Winnipeg Harvest — the food bank LaPlante has had to rely on to eat — argue a better plan would see a national living wage instituted.

"The living wage becomes the wage a family can live on and save on," said Northcott. "What I'd rather have from the federal government is them say, 'Here's a basic income and we guarantee it for all Canadians.'"

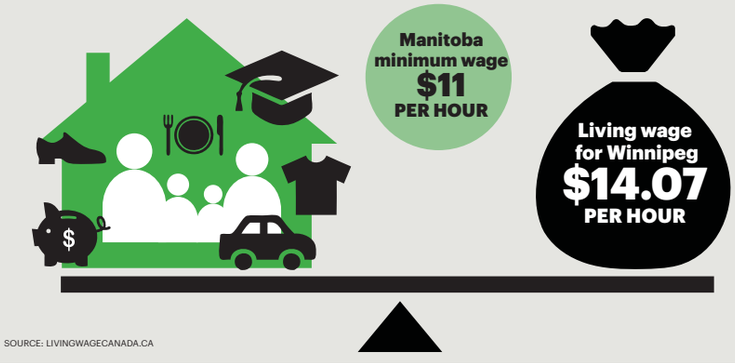
Whether it comes through a living wage or an increase to the minimum wage, LaPlante says he just needs more money to get by — and his vote will go to the party that sees that.

"These bills need to be paid, I need to eat, and I need money in my pocket."

BY THE NUMBERS

What it takes to get by in Winnipeg

Earning the legal minimum wage is one thing; living is something else. So says Living Wage Canada, a research organization that calculates what workers in various Canadian cities need to earn in order to supply a family of four with food, shelter, child care, clothing, transportation, emergency savings, medicine and education.



SOURCE: LIVINGWAGECANADA.CA

Quebec heats up ahead of debate

ELECTION 2015

NDP numbers soften in polls, Grits and Tories look for gains

In Ascot Corner, Que., population 2,000, 50 farmers and a few tractors showed up this week to protest outside an all-candidates meeting.

Fifteen minutes away, in Sherbrooke, Calgary Conservative Jason Kenney came bearing his party's message on religious face-coverings as he campaigned with local candidates.

And in Quebec City, the National Assembly voted Thursday to condemn acts of hate and violence against Muslim citizens.

The federal campaign is hot in Quebec, with a few particularly provocative topics with the potential to shake up the vote. The final French-language debate Friday night, hosted by the TVA network, has become a high-stakes event for the leaders tussling over the province's 78 seats.

In recent weeks, the NDP's polling numbers in the province have softened, opening up the possibility of unexpected gains for their rivals.

For example, Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau is hoping to win back seats his party formerly held in Montreal. He was in the city's suburbs Thursday, promoting more transit infrastructure to alleviate the city's gridlock

The emotional issue of religious accommodation and specifically the wearing of face coverings during citizenship ceremonies, has become one of the most contentious issues. There is wide support in the province for the Conservative and Bloc Quebecois position that women wearing the niqab be forced to remove it when swearing the oath.

But the niqab issue also appears to have spurred more than just anti-Islamic rhetoric in the province. A pair of teens tore the headscarf from a pregnant woman in Montreal earlier in the week, causing her to fall on the ground. THE CANADIAN PRESS

WHERE THE LEADERS ARE FRIDAY

- **Stephen Harper**, **Justin Trudeau** and **Tom Mulcair** will all be in Montreal for tonight's French-language leaders' debate.

Elizabeth May's itinerary was unavailable.

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau addresses employees and supporters during a campaign stop at a forklift dealership in Montreal, Thursday. Trudeau is hoping to win back seats his party formerly held in the city. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

COURT

Ghomeshi enters not-guilty plea

Disgraced former broadcaster Jian Ghomeshi pleaded not guilty Thursday to five charges, including four counts of sexual assault and one count of overcoming resistance by choking.

The former host of CBC Radio's cultural affairs show Q did not speak with reporters as he walked into the courthouse in downtown Toronto where he was arraigned during a court appearance.

Ghomeshi, wearing a dark suit and tie, spoke only two words in court, "not guilty," when asked how he pleaded. He had to repeat that because he wasn't speaking into a microphone. Judge William Horkins then cleared the public and media from the courtroom to deal with a motion.

Ghomeshi's trial begins Feb. 1, and will be by judge only.

The 48-year-old was originally charged with seven counts of sexual assault and one count of overcoming resistance by choking, but the Crown withdrew two sexual assault charges in May because they said there was no reasonable prospect of conviction.

A lawyer for actress Lucy Decoutere, one of the women involved in the case currently before the courts, said the allegations against Ghomeshi have triggered an important national conversation about intimate violence.

"While this case works its way through the justice system, countless assault survivors are privately reclaiming agency over their lives, telling their stories, and finally beginning to trust that people will believe them," said Gillian Hnatiw. THE CANADIAN PRESS

AWARDS

'Alternative Nobel' for Inuit leader

Canadian Inuit leader Sheila Watt-Cloutier was selected Thursday as one of three winners of the 2015 Right Livelihood Awards — the so-called "alternative Nobels."

The organization cited Watts-Cloutier for her "lifelong work to protect the Inuit of the Arctic and defend their right to maintain their livelihoods and culture, which are acutely threatened by climate change."

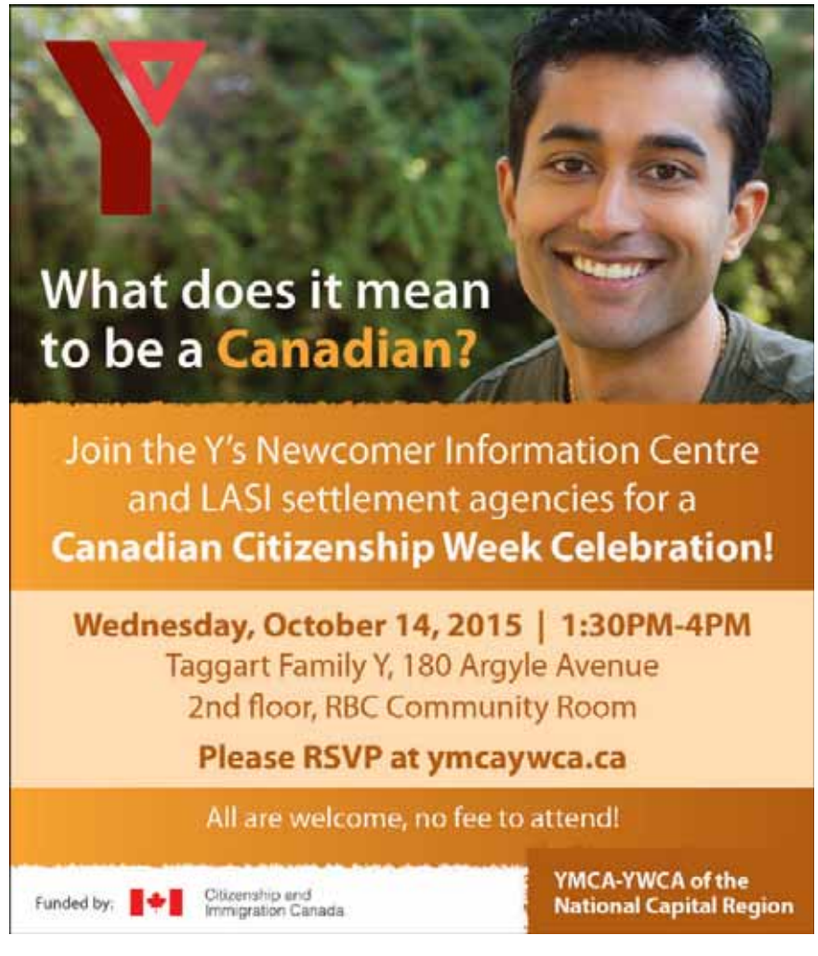
She will share the equivalent of about $475,000 with Kasha Jacqueline Nabagesera of Uganda for her struggle for gay rights and sexual minorities, and Italian surgeon Gino Strada for providing medical assistance to victims of war.

Watt-Cloutier, who was born in Kuujjuaq in northern Quebec and was a nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007, is listed as a member of the board of directors with the group Canadians For a New Partnership.

Watt-Cloutier served as president of the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) Canada from 1995 until 1998 and was the council's international chairwoman from 2002 until 2006. The ICC represents some 155,000 Inuit in Canada and other northern countries.

Watt-Cloutier's numerous awards and 13 honorary doctorates include being made an Officer in the Order of Canada in 2006.

She is also the author of a book published earlier this year entitled The Right to Be Cold: One Woman's Story of Protecting Her Culture, the Arctic and the Whole Planet. THE CANADIAN PRESS, WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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‘It’s been a terrible day’: Sheriff

ROSEBURG, OREGON

Several dead in mass shooting at community college

A gunman opened fire at a community college in Roseburg, Oregon Thursday, killing at least 10 people before dying in a shootout with police, authorities said.

The killer, identified only as a 20-year-old man, invaded a classroom and demanded that people stand up and state their religion before spraying more bullets, one student reported.

Authorities shed no light on the gunman’s motive and said they were investigating.

Douglas County Sheriff John Hanlin said 10 people were dead and seven wounded after the attack at Umpqua Community College in the small timber town of Roseburg, about 180 miles south of Portland. He did not clarify whether the number of dead included the gunman.

Earlier, Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum said 13 people were killed. It was unclear what led to the discrepancy.

“It’s been a terrible day,” a grim-faced Hanlin said. “Certainly this is a huge shock to our community.”

Hours after the attack, a visibly angry President Barack Obama spoke to reporters at the White House, saying the U.S. is becoming numb to mass shootings and that the shooters have “sickness” in their minds.

Repeating his support for tighter gun-control measures, the president said thoughts and prayers are no longer enough in such situations because they do nothing to stop similar attacks from happening a few weeks or months later.

He challenged voters wanting to confront the problem to vote for elected officials who will act.

Some students were in tears as they left. Police lined up students in a parking lot with their hands over their heads and searched them before they were bused with faculty to the nearby county fairgrounds, where counsellors were available and some parents waited for their children.

Interim college President Rita Cavin said it was awful to watch families waiting for the last bus of survivors and their loved ones were not on it.

“This is a tragedy,” she said. “We have a wonderful, warm, loving and friendly campus.”

The sheriff’s office reported on Twitter that it received a call about the shooting at 10:38 a.m..

Former UCC President Joe Olson, who retired in June, said the school had no formal security staff, just one officer on a shift.

“I suspect this is going to start a discussion across the country about how community colleges prepare themselves for events like this,” he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Authorities respond to a report of a shooting at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Ore., on Thursday. MICHAEL SULLIVAN/THE NEWS-REVIEW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOCIAL MEDIA

Shooter may have warned of plans on 4chan

The Umpqua College appears to have left a warning about the crime on 4chan, a popular online forum that allows users to post anonymously.

The original post is no longer available — 4chan does not archive conversations — but screenshots of the thread began circulating after news broke of the shooting Thursday afternoon.

“Some of you guys are alright. Don’t go to school tomorrow if you’re in the northwest,” the anonymous poster says in a thread that appears to be dated early Thursday morning. Some 4chan users egged the person on, encouraging them to post updates. 4chan has often been the source of online pranks and hoaxes, and the nature of the site makes it difficult to verify the exchange is real.

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UMPQUA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Killer asked people’s religion, student says

A student at the Oregon community college where a mass shooting occurred says the gunman shot her teacher and asked others in her classroom about their religion before spraying more bullets.

Eighteen-year-old Kortney Moore of Rogue River tells the Roseburg News-Review newspaper that she was in a writing class at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg on Thursday when a shot came through a window.

The gunman entered her classroom and told people to get on the ground.

Moore says the man started asking people to stand up and state their religion and then opened fire.

Lorie Andrews, 57, who lives across the street from the campus, said she heard what sounded like fireworks followed by sirens.

“Everybody is in shock,” she told The Oregonian. “Very, very shocked.” TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Clinton calls for ‘sensible’ gun laws

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton says of the deadly shooting in Roseburg, Oregon, that it’s beyond her comprehension that “we are seeing these mass murders happen again and again and again.”

Clinton said after a Dorchester, Mass., campaign event that the nation needs to “get the political will to do everything we can to keep people safe.”

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TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

Canada trying to seal deal

The Canadian government is eager enough to complete a historic trade agreement this week that the country's lead minister has no idea when he'll be back home campaigning in the federal election.

In his first full day at the meetings that could ultimately clinch the 12-country Trans-Pacific Partnership, Ed Fast said he's willing to stay as long as it takes. He said he doesn't yet have a return plane ticket to British Columbia because, he says, completing the deal is critical to Canada's economy.

"What I can say is that Canada is prepared to negotiate, to stay here until we have a deal," the international trade minister said Wednesday.

"We believe we are on track to do so."

He insisted that he's also willing to walk away if necessary: "I can't prejudge whether there will be a deal this weekend … We are only going to sign a deal that is in our national interest."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

LG doubles down

SMARTPHONES

Firm hopes dual display, wider selfies will halt slide

South Korean smartphone maker LG Electronics Inc. unveiled a new smartphone Thursday with an additional screen and a camera that can capture a wider scene when taking a selfie, hoping to arrest a slide in its market share.

The V10 comes with another screen above the main 5.7-inch display.

The small second screen can stay on to display weather, time and date when the main display is turned off. It has room for frequently used apps and can receive notifications while using the main screen to watch a video.

The V10 smartphone is LG's latest attempt to make headway in the premium mobile phone market. Its flagship G series phones were edged out by new phones from Samsung and Apple.

A visitor tries LG Electronics Inc.'s new V10 phone during its unveiling ceremony in Seoul, South Korea, Thursday. LEE JIN-MAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The company has lost its market share in the smartphone market in recent months, falling to the seventh place globally as Chinese vendors surpassed its shipments.

The new phone's front camera is equipped with a standard 80-degree lens and a 120-degree wide-angle lens option. That means a larger group can fit into a selfie shot taken with the V10.

"The ability to take group selfies without a selfie-stick has never been easier," LG said in a statement.

The V10 phone will go on sale in South Korea later this month for 800,000 won ($678 US) without a contract from a carrier, followed by the U.S. launch next month.

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IN BRIEF

Call of Duty under fire for fake terror attack tweets

A series of promotional tweets for the Call of Duty video game came under some criticism because they described a terrorist attack with no immediate disclaimers stating they were fictional. The War of the Worlds-style tweets were designed to look like those of a news organization. The first tweet announced unconfirmed reports of an explosion at the Singapore Marina. Call of Duty: Black Ops III takes place in a fictional city overrun by zombies.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Feeling frustrated: Apple has given a makeover to its dreaded "Wheel of Death" icon, which pleads users for patience — though it's not clear if the cleaner lines have a calming effect.

PRO CON

Where are you really from?

It's an awkward question people get pretty often if others have trouble placing their ethnicity. But is it offensive, or even racist?

YES: I'm just as Canadian as any white person

Christine Estima
For Metro

The bane of my existence has been this dialogue:

"Where are you from?"

"Montreal."

"No, where are you *really* from?"

Why does this chip away at my sense of self and national identity?

When someone asks, "But where are you really from?" what they're really saying is, "You're not white, and you don't adhere to my stringent idea of what constitutes a Canadian. So why are you here?"

It's a subtle form of racism that hides behind the banner of, "Oh, I'm just curious." You're not curious. You just refuse to accept minorities are part of Canada's mosaic.

It's a subtle form of racism that hides behind, 'Oh, I'm just curious.'

Canada's history is so steeped in multiculturalism and diversity, yet it's amazing how the image of what a Canadian looks like doesn't include me. I have been told time and time again that I'm not a real Canadian, and alternately that I have abandoned the culture people think I *should* belong to.

One woman — a complete stranger, I might add — came up to me on the street and said, "You look like you're from a race that hasn't been invented yet." Good one!

I'm of mixed heritage, half Portuguese and half Lebanese, with one great-grandfather who came from Syria. I was born and raised in Montreal, I speak English and French, I grew up ice skating and I know all the lyrics to The Log Driver's Waltz.

The only culture I've ever known is Canadian, but because I have thick eyebrows, olive skin and other Mediterranean features, my qualifications, personality and intelligence are never as important as my "fiery Latina" look.

Eye roll.

I get it; you can't place my ethno-cultural heritage. But when you ask me where I'm from, you need to accept the answer I give you.

Because I'm from Montreal.

If the only way you can interact with someone is by categorizing their ethnicity first, you are reducing complex human beings to the sum of their parts. And I refuse to buy into your binary rhetoric.

If you can't figure out my ethnicity, here's what you should do:

1) Don't worry about it and go about your day.

So when someone asks me, "But where are you *really* from?" I reply, "I'm just as Canadian as any white person."

It brings their implied racism to the fore. Most importantly, it messes with their heads for my viewing pleasure.

Christine Estima is a writer and spoken-word artist. She tweets at @christineestima.

NO: We're more sensitive now, but not more thoughtful

Deena Douara Karim
Metro | Toronto

People, you're allowed to say "black." I have it on good word.

Once, when I asked a colleague to identify a woman I was looking for, his response included "red jacket," and "shortish hair." Not having noted the colour of jackets that day, I asked, "Is she black?"

We've become quite sensitive but not more thoughtful. It's our prejudices — not our vision — that need to be tempered. (And yes, I would have mentioned whiteness if it was a useful descriptor in that situation.)

The most progressive amongst us have a knee-jerk reaction to all references to race and ethnicity. Basically, you don't refer to either unless it's followed by an injustice.

Maybe that's one reason we've deemed offensive the once-innocuous, "Where are you from?"

Sure, the question is clumsy and imprecise. But do we really think it's about immigration status?

Sure, the question is clumsy and imprecise, but do we genuinely think people are asking about our immigration status?

I too am asked where I'm from, but I'm not offended if someone recognizes that I may also live in a culture that coexists with our shared one. Why conclude they think I'm "less Canadian" than Stephen Harper's "old-stock" variety? I can't help but think there's defensiveness in such a response. I'm not Canadian minus Egyptian. I'm Canadian plus Egyptian.

In my case, my origin adds layers of language, tradition and religion to my identity. And as a poor small-talker, layers of conversation as well.

I understand the concerns. Why should it matter? Why single out "ethnic-looking" minorities?

No, ethnicity shouldn't matter to an employer, police officer or judge. But it matters. My parents left the comfort of their family, language and community for an unknown land. That shaped me.

While nothing is universal, if there were no common experiences then "Signs you were raised by (insert ethnicity) parents" videos and lists wouldn't make us laugh.

I'm certain there are minorities who've lived no culture other than Canadian culture; but I know many more who visit "back home"; take pride in passed-down recipes and bond over shared childhood embarrassments. There are a range of reasons people ask about my background, and reasons I'm curious about yours. Maybe I've travelled to your country of heritage and would like to share my experience, or I'd like to visit one day and would welcome your insights. Perhaps you have questions about Egypt and (correctly) assume I've paid more attention. Maybe next time you hear about terrorist Arabs you'll remember, because you asked, that there's at least one peace-loving Arab in your life.

We shouldn't have to pretend not to see skin colour, hear accents or recognize features. No, we're not all the same — but why is that the goal?

Deena Douara Karim is a journalist and photographer. She tweets at @Deena_Do.

metroview

The Tories have more Muslim supporters than you might expect

Steven Zhou
For Metro

Popular convention has it that Canadian Muslims and Stephen Harper's Conservative Party just don't get along.

Conservatives refer to the Muslim community as a hotbed of extremist violence and cultural backwardness in order to justify their security and immigration legislation. There's significant backlash among Muslims, many of whom don't want to be made to feel like they're not part of Canada.

So there's a lot of truth to the assertion that Muslims don't like Stephen Harper, but there's actually more to the picture than meets the eye.

A recent surge in anti-Harper organizing by Muslims inside Ontario makes it appear anti-Tory sentiment now fuels all Muslims politically. Moreover that it's what will drive Muslims to the polls on Oct. 19, where most will vote against Harper. This may be accurate enough, but it ignores the ultraconservative streak within the Muslim community. The truth is, a sizeable portion of Canadian Muslims vote Conservative.

Muslims who are organizing their communities against Harper have been politicized a certain way. Those who have been paying attention to the current administration know Muslims have been caricatured as this country's bogeymen. And they're likely to seek alternatives. But they don't account for all Canadian Muslims.

Plenty of Muslims just don't care. Their apathy is reflected in part by the community's low voter turnout. It means a good portion of Canadian Muslims aren't politicized much, let alone in a way that aligns them with a progressive agenda. An Ipsos Reid exit poll showed the Liberals got the most support from Muslims in 2011, but also that 12 per cent of voting Muslims went Tory. This isn't a huge number, but not a negligible one either.

Muslims who haven't been shown the effects of the so-called "Harper decade" on the Muslim community are more likely to use social issues as a guide when approaching politics. Many Muslims tend to boil their religious identity down to being pro-life, anti-gay marriage, or some other mishmash of reactionary stances. Their political outlook isn't influenced by much else.

These are the Muslims who look at Harper and see a family man who mows his lawn and doesn't like to overspend. (They're not familiar with the Tories' consecutive national deficits). In other words, they think, "He's socially conservative and fiscally conservative, just like me."

Instead of mocking what they see as the Muslim Tories' apparent lack of political awareness, Muslims who want to replace Harper should recognize the size of their opposition within their very own community.

Steven Zhou is a Toronto-based journalist and editor. He tweets at @stevenzzhou.

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MOVIES MUSIC TELEVISION DIGITAL

Members of cast met representatives from NASA and the European Space Agency in preparation for shooting The Martian. TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

Fantasy of space now a reality

SPACE DRAMA

Scott says The Martian was 'a much more realistic movie'

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Director Ridley Scott says his new film, The Martian, is much more realistic than his other, classic space dramas.

"The fantasy of space," he said, "which is now also a reality, is a marvellous platform and a form of theatre. Honestly, almost anything goes. But, if anything goes whether you do a play, a book or a film, you've got to actually make your own rule book and stick within the confines of the rules you make. So, if I'm doing space fantasy like Alien or Prometheus, I've got to draw up the sidelines of the rule book and stick within them. It's still a fantasy because it's never going to happen. (The Martian) is a lot easier because, actually, you can lean very heavily on the science in the book. This was a much more realistic movie."

That realism stems from source novel by Andy Weir, a self-professed science geek who worked to ensure that the story of Mark Watney, an astronaut who survives after being left for dead on Mars, felt genuine.

"The basic structure of the Mars program in the book is very similar to a plan called Mars Direct, though I made changes here and there," he said, in a Q & A on the Penguin Random House website. "It's the most likely way that we will have our first Mars mission in real life. All the facts about Mars are accurate, as well as the physics of space travel the story presents. I even calculated the various orbital paths involved in the story, which required me to write my own software to track constant-thrust trajectories."

As research the actors met with representatives from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the European Space Agency.

"I got to go to the JPL in Pasadena and meet with all the robotics guys and see the Curiosity Rover and do virtual reality to be on Mars and see what that would be like," said Jessica Chastain, who plays the commander of the Mars mission. "Then I went to Houston and met with Tracy Caldwell Dyson, who's an astronaut and talked to her."

The cast says filming the zero gravity and space walk scenes involved careful planning and wirework to make them look authentic. "It's choreographed to within an inch of its life and we're just along for the ride," said Chastain. "It feels very much like a dance and there is choreography to it," adds Kate Mara, "but, once you do it, you really do feel like a little kid."

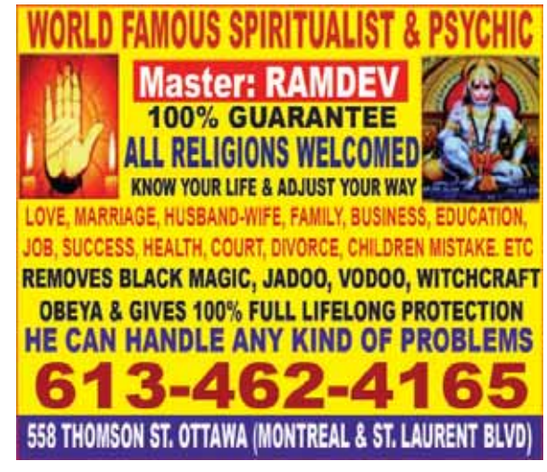
The former House of Cards star says Scott was enthusiastic about shooting those scenes. "Maybe he was just faking it really well (but he) seemed just as excited as we did when were doing the scenes floating through the air."

Matt Damon, who demonstrated another technique to achieve the look of weightlessness on screen at The Martian TIFF press conference — standing on one leg while slowly waving his hands through the air — said that,"one of the things that is fun about making movies and (also) totally, totally ridiculous is that we are grownups doing this."

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

The Walk	★★★★
The Martian	★★★

HOW RATING WORKS	
★★★★	SEE IT
★★★	WORTHWHILE
★★	UP TO YOU
★	SKIP IT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National Lampoon's long legacy

DOCUMENTARY

Film looks at pivotal time in comedy history

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada

There are few things in the comedy world that have been more influential than National Lampoon.

As highlighted in the new documentary Drunk Stoned Brilliant Dead: The Story of the National Lampoon, the raunchy satirical magazine not only launched the careers of the likes of Bill Murray, John Belushi and a series of hit comedies like Vacation and Animal House, it inspired today's top comic minds including Judd Apatow and Al Jean — longtime writer/producer of The Simpsons.

We caught up with Jean recently to discuss the legacy of filth left behind by National Lampoon.

As a fan, is there an article or sketch that's stayed with you all these years?

Oh, a bunch of them.

I love the Vietnamese Baby Book. We had baby books but this was for a kid in Vietnam and it had baby's first Band-Aid, baby's first flesh wound — done in a cutesy baby-book style.

Also, the cover (which read) 'If you don't buy this magazine, we'll shoot this dog' may be the best magazine cover ever and the dog looks so funny, it kills me every time.

Have you ever stolen any ideas from your Lampoon days and used it on The Simpsons?

No, the only reason being the magazine was pretty much reaching for a vulgar tone that The Simpsons wouldn't be doing. Before (co-writer Mike Reiss and I) quit, we were asked to write a parody of Raiders of the Lost Ark where instead of a big boulder, it was a big boob and Mike and I were so happy that we didn't have to finish it.

STAR POWER

Lampoon's far-reaching influence on entertainment

- Singer Meat Loaf once toured with the National Lampoon Road Show before he hit it big with his 1977 album Bat Out of Hell
- Legendary 1980s filmmaker John Hughes (The Breakfast Club) was one of the raunchiest writers in the magazine's history
- In 1975, National Lampoon talents John Belushi, Gilda Radner and Chevy Chase all left the magazine to star on upstart Saturday Night Live.

After the magazine folded in 1998, National Lampoon as a brand lost even more prestige because of its association with a string of low-brow straight-to-video college movies that borrowed its name.

There's no humour or sensibility to them. This documentary is the best film with the National Lampoon name on it in 20 years!

So what should the average person take away from watching this documentary?

A lot of people may not be aware that before Saturday Night Live and The Simpsons, there was this institution that was enormous in its influence that really gave birth to the (comedy) that you're most familiar with over the last 30 years.

Drunk Stoned Brilliant Dead opens in Toronto on Friday or can be viewed on VOD.

Chevy Chase and John Belushi are just two big names who got their start with National Lampoon.

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DRAMA

The Walk

Director: Robert Zemeckis
Starring: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Ben Kingsley

The Walk is the true story of a young dreamer, Philippe Petit, and a band of unlikely recruits who together achieve the impossible: an illegal wire walk in the immense void between the World Trade Center towers. With little more than nerve and blind ambition, Petit and his ragtag crew overcome daunting physical obstacles, betrayals, countless close calls and overwhelming odds to beat the system and execute their mad plan.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics:	Audience:
85%	+93%

SCI-FI

The Martian

Director: Ridley Scott
Starring: Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain

During a manned mission to Mars, Astronaut Mark Watney (Matt Damon) is presumed dead after a storm and left behind by his crew. But Watney has survived and finds himself stranded alone on the hostile planet. With only meagre supplies, he must draw upon his ingenuity and find a way to signal to Earth he is alive. Millions of miles away, NASA and a team of international scientists work tirelessly to bring "the Martian" home, while his crewmates concurrently plot a daring, if not impossible rescue mission.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics:	Audience:
92%	+99%

DRAMA

A Walk In The Woods

Director: Ken Kwapis
Starring: Robert Redford, Emma Thompson

In this new comedy adventure, celebrated travel writer, Bill Bryson (Robert Redford), instead of retiring to enjoy his loving and beautiful wife (Emma Thompson), and large and happy family, challenges himself to hike the Appalachian Trail - 2,200 miles of America's most unspoiled, spectacular and rugged countryside from Georgia to Maine. The peace and tranquility he hopes to find, though, is anything but.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics:	Audience:
45%	58%

Seeing the light in the dark

Director Denis Villeneuve, above, called on cinematographer Roger Deakins — known for his stunning work with shadows — to set the scene in Sicario. CONTRIBUTED

SICARIO

Denis Villeneuve calls on master cinematographer for latest film

"The Prince of Darkness" was the nickname of cinematographer legend Gordon Willis, but Roger Deakins, too, has shown a kingly command of shadows.

Recall the sleek Shanghai skyscraper scene of Skyfall, the desperate moonlit horse ride of True Grit, or the early dawn dog chase of No Country for Old Men. In Denis Villeneuve's drug war thriller Sicario, Deakins adds to his nighttime reel with a memorable border tunnel pursuit, seen through night vision and infrared perspectives.

Sicario, which opens across the country today, could be the film that finally rights one of cinema's greatest wrongs, and lands the 66-year-old British cinematographer his first Oscar. Deakins has been nominated 12 times and is generally acknowledged as one of the movies' greatest visual minds.

The regular director of photography for the Coen brothers, Deakins is less likely to speak of an impressive shot than about how the photography is always in the service of character, script and circumstances. Sicario, his second film with the Québécois director Villeneuve following Prisoners, has its grim darkness, but much of it — like a shootout in bumper-to-bumper traffic — takes place under the harsh desert light of the Mexican border.

He and Villeneuve recently spoke about making Sicario, for which Deakins drew inspiration from the French filmmaker Jean-Pierre Melville.

What makes the two of you fit well together?

Villeneuve: It's strange. It's like two totally different animals that can communicate together. We are from totally different backgrounds. ... just shot with Bradford Young. ... As much as I loved working with Bradford, I realized how much I learned working with Roger. I was saying to myself, 'It's the only movie I've made with two cinematographers.' Because I always had you in my mind saying, 'Don't put the camera there. Don't do that. Move faster.'

Deakins: Nag, nag, nag.

V: People are always asking what is your biggest influence from other filmmakers? It's always Roger for me. Honestly, it's a massive privilege for me. I'm missing you a lot, sir.

D: I'm missing you, too. We did hit it off straight away, didn't we? The first time we met we seemed to hit it off. We're both very honest with each other, which is good.

What was your approach to shooting in the desert?

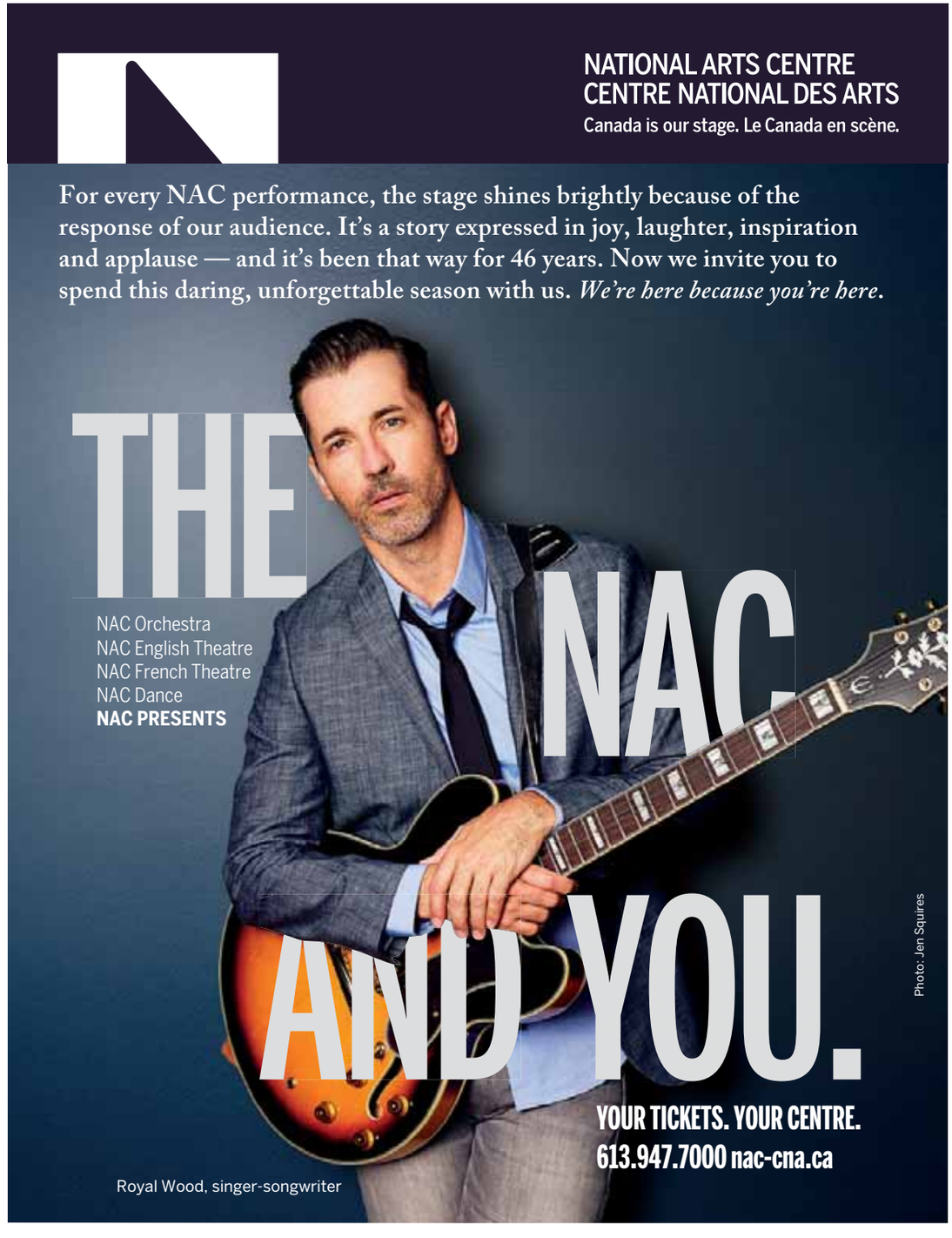
V: There was the idea to embrace nature, to inspire ourselves from the desert, to work with the brutality of the sun. We were working with a tight schedule and I was aware Roger would have to shoot sometimes in bad light, not having the luxury to shoot in perfect light. I remember saying should we try to embrace that, to have actors with shadows, to have silhouettes in the sun. There was a photographer that Roger loves, Alex Webb, that was an inspiration in the colour of Mexico.

D: That script on Prisoners, it could have become so melodramatic. But it was a matter of stripping it down and getting to the sense of it. To me, the whole film ends up being about: How far do you go? What is right? To me, Sicario relates to so much more than just drug trafficking. It relates to Guantanamo Bay and the whole bit.

V: We really insisted, Roger and I, to shoot in Mexico. We didn't want to recreate the Mexican culture in the United States — we thought that would be impossible. Luckily, we were able through time and a lot of meetings to convince them.

D: A LOT of meetings.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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7 Things to know about the new Homeland

SEASON PREMIERE

Fifth season promises to be unlike any of the past runs

Brian Gasparek
For Metro Canada

The wait is finally over. After nine long months, Homeland officially returns to our living rooms this Sunday night.

After redeeming itself as one of television's best thrillers last year, the fifth season of the political drama has become one of this fall's most highly anticipated returns.

But this round of Homeland is expected to be different than everything we've seen in the series over the past five years. This season promises to deliver a major creative overhaul to the show's setting, political themes and to the lives of Carrie Mathison and our other favourite characters. So what can you expect with all of the changes? We're here to fill you in.

Here are seven things you need to know going into Homeland this season.

1 Goodbye Islamabad, hello Berlin

Time has skipped ahead quite a bit since we last left Carrie, Saul and Quinn. We will learn that season five takes place two and a half years after the season four finale. We will also see that the show has found a brand new setting. This season was shot completely in Berlin, where Carrie now lives. Fun fact: Homeland is officially the first U.S. show to ever film entirely on location in Germany.

2 Carrie has a new job

Carrie's days as an intelligence officer are long gone… at least for now. This season we will find her estranged from the CIA and diligently working for a private security firm in Berlin.

In the premiere, we will learn that Carrie is now the head of security for a German philanthropist named Otto Düring.

3 Tackling ISIS, Vladimir Putin, Edward Snowden

Homeland will finally get away from its ongoing theme of U.S. and Middle Eastern relations in season five. This year's storyline is set to touch on updated real life foreign issues including ISIS, Vladimir Putin, the Charlie Hebdo shooting and Edward Snowden.

4 Carrie is all about being a mom now

Despite the horrible "bathtub scene" that we had to endure between her and her baby daughter in season four, we will now find Carrie to be a loving, interested, bedtime-story-reading mother. Hard to believe, right?

5 She also has a new boyfriend

We will also learn that Carrie has a new, live-in love interest. His name is Jonas Hollander and he's a lawyer for the foundation that Carrie does security work for. Jonas has a slight ginger resemblance to Carrie's late ex and baby daddy Nick Brody.

6 Carrie has turned to religion

Who would have thought that Carrie would become a devout Christian this season? Apparently a couple calendar years and a new country have changed her. In Carrie's first scene this season, she will be taking communion at a church in Berlin.

7 Still on bad terms with Saul and Quinn

In the premiere, we will find out that two and a half years hasn't changed the relationship between Carrie, Saul and Quinn.

Carrie is still out of touch with both of her former CIA partners. But we can only assume that we will see them both in Berlin very quickly this season.

Carrie embraces motherhood this season. CONTRIBUTED

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Lonely Planet releases new children's travel guide of the world

5 PLACES TO SCARE YOURSELF SILLY THIS HALLOWEEN

If you haven't been frightened on Halloween since you were a kid, these tourist attractions across Canada are bound to crank up your fear factor in the days leading up to the spookfest. **MARK STACHIEW** FOR METRO

HISTORIC GARDENS

1 Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia

Annapolis Royal is a town with so much history that it can't help but have a spectre or two wandering its streets at night. During October, the Nova Scotia municipality transforms into a ghost town with an array of spooky activities ranging from haunted houses at area museums to candlelight graveyard tours and many other events for lovers of the supernatural between Oct. 16-31.

2 Fort Fright, Ontario

During the dark and lonely nights of October, Old Fort Henry in Kingston dims the lights and changes its name to Fort Fright. The dark corners of this War of 1812-era fortress are dressed up to scare the wits out of you. Are you ready for a coffin ride or a creepy tunnel crawl in the dark? The frights are offered between Oct. 1-18, Thursday to Sunday evenings, then nightly from Oct. 22-Nov. 1.

FORT HENRY ARCHIVES

ISTOCK

3 Evil Acres, British Columbia

What's your worst fear? Is it coulrophobia, a fear of clowns, or herpetophobia, a fear of reptiles? Evil Acres in North Saanich on Vancouver Island stokes both of those phobias and a psychology textbook full of others in the Darkness Maze. You can also visit Slaughter House Extreme, which is the eerie remnant of a meat-packing plant that is not as abandoned as it looks. Screams run from Oct. 9-10, 16-18 and 22-31.

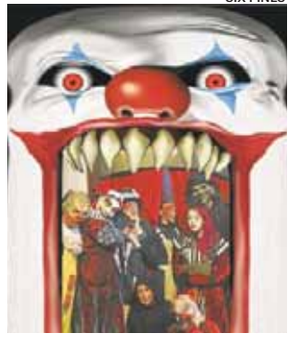
SUE SABROWSKI/ATLAS COAL MINE

4 Atlas Coal Mine, Alberta

The area around Drumheller was once a famous coal-producing region, but those days are long gone. All that is left are the empty mines and the ghosts of the men who worked them. At the Atlas Coal Mine National Historic Site, visitors can experience Little Boo this Oct. 25. It's an afternoon of Halloween activities for gentler souls at this creepy industrial site. Your admission fees raise funds to maintain and restore this piece of Canadian history.

5 Six Pines, Manitoba

SIX PINES



Located north of Winnipeg, Six Pines bills itself as Manitoba's scariest Halloween attraction. By day, they offer the Family Fun Haunt, but when the sun sets, no children are allowed because that's when the real terror begins. Visitors can choose between the provocatively named Barn of Doom or the Terror Train. Pick your poison or take a double dose from Oct. 8-10, 15-17, 22-24 and 29-31.

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Slides, sharks and rum punch in Atlantis

ON THE MOVE

Resort features a 141-acre water park and five hotel options

Loren Christie
For Metro Canada

The Atlantis resort and water park on Paradise Island, the Bahamas. PETER REMUS/ATLANTIS RESORT

Greek lore says that the mythical civilization of Atlantis sunk into the ocean, but I am not so sure. A visit to the Atlantis resort in the Bahamas might have you believing that this mythical kingdom rose again in the form of a Las Vegas-meets-Waterworld pleasure paradise.

The Resort

Atlantis' focal point is water and marine life, built around eight million gallons of fresh- and salt-water pools, lagoons and cascading waterfalls. It also includes a casino, five hotel towers, a golf course and the 141-acre Aquaventure water park. There are options for everyone, whether you are a beach bum, a thrill seeker or want to let your hair down with a midday pool party. Like my first day at Disney World, I was overwhelmed trying to decide where to start.

I went with the Current, a tube-ride that meanders along a 1.5-kilometre route through the park.

At times you are really tossed around in the rapids. I rode it twice. Then after tackling the famous waterslides, two of which shoot you through a shark-infested tank (with the protection of a covered tube), I ended my day drinking margaritas while watching my lounge chair neighbours show off their twerking skills.

Accommodation

The resort includes five different accommodation options. Public relations manager Eric Hall uses an airline analogy to explain the difference: "The Coral and Beach towers are coach. The Royal tower is business class and the Cove and the Reef are first-class."

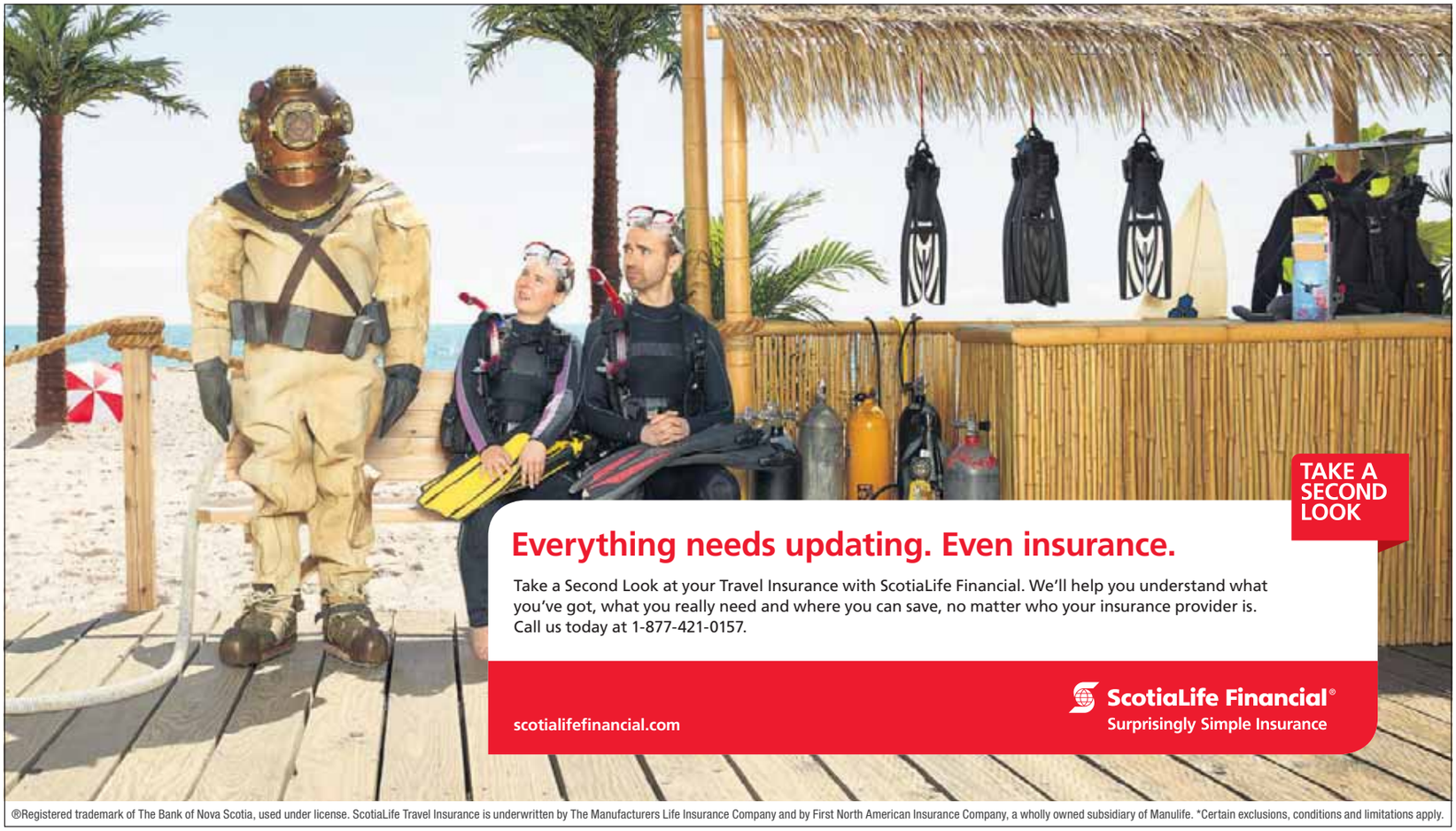
My deluxe ocean-view room in the Cove included a huge bathroom with soaker tub and two sinks (a favourite vacation perk of my spouse), a sitting area and a balcony, which allowed us to watch some incredible sunsets and the cruise ships glide in and out of the port of Nassau. The best perk of the Cove, however, is the respite it provided from the buzz of the resort — akin to staying at the best off-the-Strip hotel in Vegas.

Meals

There are 40 restaurants and bars to choose from, including the world's first pool-side Starbucks and an Atlantis edition of Chef Nobu Matsuhisa's famous restaurant Nobu. Many of the restaurants are stand-alone buildings located in the resort's marina village area. Bimini Road's Bahamian fare includes many iterations of conch and a killer Bahama Mama rum punch.

Final word

From swimming with the dolphins to scuba diving to rock climbing the activities are limitless but this fantasy world does come with a cost. There is no all-inclusive option so make sure to price out your activities before you go and stick to your budget. It's easy to be seduced by all the shiny, wet things.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Your essential daily news

EA Sports' NHL 16 picks the Ducks to beat the Canadiens in the Stanley Cup final

IN BRIEF

Jackson gets in on action in Cubs' win over Reds

Austin Jackson hit a three-run homer, Anthony Rizzo added an RBI double and the Chicago Cubs kept alive their slim hopes for home-field advantage in the wild-card game with a 5-3 victory over the Cincinnati Reds on Thursday.

Chris Denorfia also drove in a run and the Cubs overcame two errors to move within two games of idle Pittsburgh in the race for home field in Wednesday's NL wild-card playoff game. Both teams have three to play — Chicago in Milwaukee and the Pirates against the Reds in Pittsburgh.

Joey Votto's seventh-inning RBI single extended to 47 his streak of consecutive games in which he's reached base at least once. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dodgers ride Anderson's arm past rival Giants

Brett Anderson pitched two-hit ball into the eighth in his final regular-season start, and the NL West champion Los Angeles Dodgers wrapped up their road schedule with a 3-2 victory over the San Francisco Giants on Thursday.

Anderson (10-9) retired 14 straight batters at one point. The lefty made his 31st start for a career high, topping his 30 outings in 2009 as a rookie with Oakland. Healthy for the season again, he also reached a high for innings with 180-1/3. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

One item remains on Jays' pre-playoffs checklist

MLB

Toronto in battle with K.C. for top spot in AL

When the cigar smoke settled from a wild celebration after clinching the American League East, the Toronto Blue Jays were left with more work to do.

"We think we have more ahead of us," manager John Gibbons said. "We really do."

Gibbons is talking about the playoffs, where oddsmakers have made the Blue Jays World Series favourites. But before that, there's the matter of trying to assure home-field advantage throughout the playoffs.

Heading into Thursday, the Blue Jays had a magic number of three to clinch the top seed in the American League. They led the Kansas City Royals by a game but own the tiebreaker, so if the teams finish with an even record, the Blue Jays take it.

Despite fielding a lineup without any regulars in the second half of a doubleheader Wednesday and then again Thursday to give starters a rest, home-field advantage is still something the Blue Jays want.

"We'd love to get it, we're certainly going to fight for it, but you do balance it out with having to give guys rest," general manager Alex Anthopoulos said. "Home field for us with the environment we have at that stadium ... everybody across the league is talking about what an unbelievable environment it is, to have a dome, playing conditions, all that, I think it's a big advantage for us."

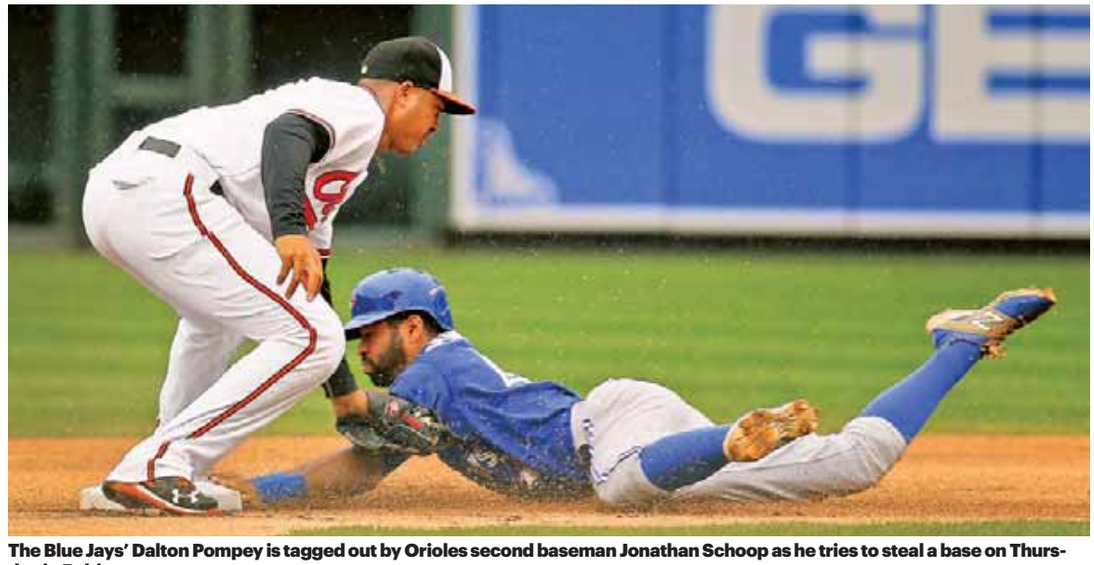
Rogers Centre was sold out for 20 of the final 21 home games of the regular season, and ace David Price remarked on the day he debuted for Toronto that he had never pitched in an atmosphere like that before.

Price won't get a chance to pitch again until Game 1 of the ALDS on Thursday. The Blue Jays opted to hold him out of his scheduled start in Baltimore and ultimately decided to give him rest rather than having him pitch in the final series of the season at the Tampa Bay Rays.

Mark Buehrle is set to pitch Friday and Marco Estrada on Saturday. Toronto's starter for Sunday is to be determined.

Clinching the AL's top seed would mean facing the winner of the wild-card game in the first round. The New York Yankees will likely host either the Houston Astros, Los Angeles Angels or Minnesota Twins in that one-game playoff Tuesday.

If the Royals finish with a better record, the Blue Jays would very likely face the Texas Rangers, who are close to wrapping up the AL West. THE CANADIAN PRESS



The Blue Jays' Dalton Pompey is tagged out by Orioles second baseman Jonathan Schoop as he tries to steal a base on Thursday in Baltimore. ROB CARR/GETTY IMAGES

SERIES FINALE

The Baltimore Orioles took advantage of the Blue Jays resting their starters, winning a rain-marred game 6-4 on Thursday. Manny Machado homered twice for the O's in a game that was delayed for 3 hours, 25 minutes after the first inning. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

France first into last 8

RUGBY WORLD CUP

Brave Canucks resist Les Bleus in first half before folding

IN ENGLAND

41	18
FRANCE	CANADA

France became the first team through to the Rugby World Cup quarterfinals after scoring five tries in a 41-18 win against Canada in their Pool D match on Thursday.

Veteran lock Pascal Pape scored the fourth try to earn the all-important bonus point that France — runner-up in 2011 to the Kiwis — needed to reach the last eight.

France now faces Ireland in a game that should determine top spot in Pool D, with the winner likely to avoid a showdown with the All Blacks in the last 8. Despite the full-time score against Canada, it was a somewhat patchy performance from France and the only safe bet was the accurate kicking of Frederic Michalak. The flyhalf, 32, converted the first four tries and added two penalties on his way to becoming his country's all-time World Cup scorer. Despite it being a fifth straight win for France, Saint-Andre will be seeking answers as to why his team switched off in the first half.

The French appeared to be in complete control at 17-0 after tries from centre Wesley Fofana and hooker Guilhem Guirado, but Canada rallied with two quick tries. Winger DTH Van Der Merwe crossed out wide and hooker Aaron Carpenter bulldozed over the creaking French line on the right. "I'm really proud of the performance," Canada coach Kieran Crowley said. The Canucks' last match is against Romania. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

France's Brice Dulin gets tackled by Canada's DTH van der Merwe and Jamie Cudmore. BERTRAND LANGLOIS/AFP

CFL BURRIS GIVES REDBLACKS EARLY LEAD VS. ALOUETTES The Montreal Alouettes' Terry Johnson breaks up a pass to the Redblacks' Greg Ellingson during first half of Thursday night's game at Lansdowne Park, Ottawa. The Redblacks led 20-3 in the second quarter after Henry Burris found Chris Williams. Go to metronews.ca for the final result. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Toronto's BMO Field will host 2016 Grey Cup

The CFL will bring its championship game back to Toronto next year and this time it will have more of a true football feel.

The 2016 Grey Cup will be played outdoors on grass at a refurbished BMO Field, which will become the new home of the Argonauts when they move out of Rogers Centre after this season. The 104th edition of the Grey Cup is set for Nov. 27, 2016. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bears hopeful Cutler can return for Raiders clash

The Chicago Bears hope to get quarterback Jay Cutler back for Sunday's game against the Oakland Raiders and are preparing to go with Jimmy Clausen again if he is not ready.

Cutler practiced Thursday on a limited basis for the second consecutive day after sitting out last week's 26-0 loss at Seattle because of a pulled hamstring. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Aussie Gibson leads Web.com Tour Championship

Rhein Gibson shot a 7-under 63 on Thursday to take a one-stroke lead in the Web.com Tour Finals-ending Web.Com Tour Championship. The Australian had eight birdies and a bogey on Dye's Valley Course at TPC Sawgrass.

The tournament is the fourth and final event in the series for the top 75 players from the Web.com Tour money list, Nos. 126-200 in the PGA Tour's FedEx Cup standings. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECIPE Avocado Lettuce Tomato

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

All of our favourite ingredients together in a perfect package.

Ready in
Prep time: 5 minutes
Serves 2

Ingredients
- 1 tomato
- 1 tsp olive oil
- Sea salt
- 1/2 avocado, pitted and mashed
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 4 basil leaves, torn
- 4 pieces of multi-grain bread, toasted
- 1/2 head of Boston bibb lettuce
- Cucumber slices, if desired

Directions
1. Cut tomato and place on a plate. Coat with olive oil and sprinkle with sea salt. Let stand.
2. Meanwhile, mash avocado in a medium bowl and then add lemon juice and torn basil. Mix until smooth.
3. Toast bread and then smear about a tablespoon and a half of the avocado spread onto the bread. Finish by adding tomato slices and a few pieces of lettuce. Cut in half or in quarters and serve with some cucumber slices.

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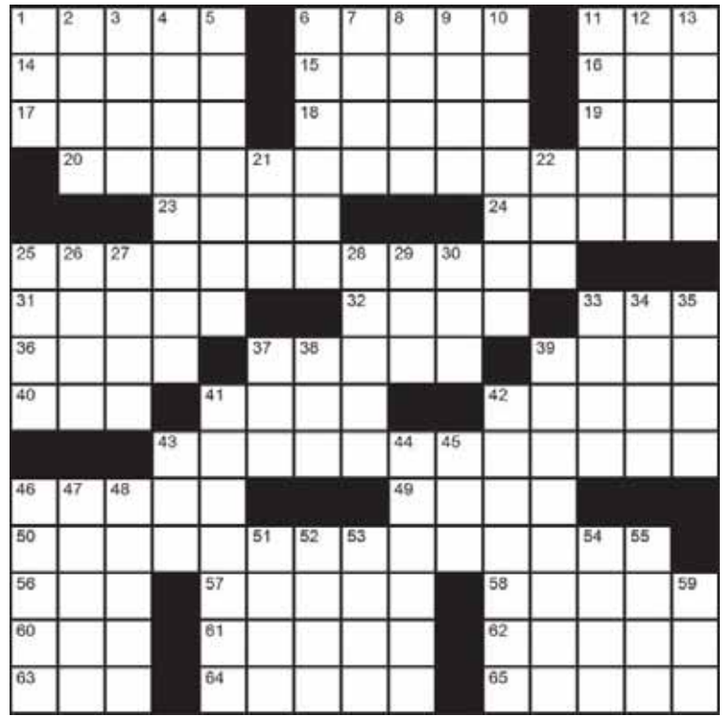
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Psychedelic carpets
6. Sacha Baron Cohen character
11. US filmmakers org.
14. Squish food
15. Popular island retreat
16. Sleeve
17. Feminine inner self, in Jungian psychology
18. Smiled brightly: 2 wds.
19. "Send in the Clowns" query: "Are __ pair?"
20. Canadian newscast anchored by #11-Down: 2 wds.
23. Volcanic flow
24. Speak from the podium
25. Industrial-looking wall feature in a condo loft: 2 wds.
31. Mr. Kinnear's
32. Ms. Horne
33. Canadian actress/model Ms. Anderson, to pals
36. Mr. Busey
37. Sticks
39. Animal rights gr.
40. St. John's International Airport code
41. Dove sounds
42. Mr. Eckhart
43. New competitive TV series for Canadian artists on the CBC: 2 wds.
46. Hair styling product
49. Actress Ms. Kurylenko
50. 1982 short stories book by Canadian writer Alice Munro, with The: 3 wds.
56. Everything
57. Giving-it-a-go-er
58. Canada's largest duck
60. "My Gal __" (1942)
61. Like lots-of-lots-owning lairds
62. Singer Bonnie
63. Timecard abbrs.
64. End table items
65. Rosebud, and others

DOWN
1. Facials-getting lieu
2. __ jury
3. Botanical casing
4. Science for jewellers
5. Fishy-sounding character played by Canadian hockey great Cam Neely in movie comedies: 2 wds.
6. Slow song
7. Wholly __ part
8. Montreal-born actress Ms. Lee
9. Adjoin
10. Dessert selection
11. As per #20-Across... Winnipeg-born journalist Ms. Friesen
12. Amazing
13. "I Was __ War Bride" (1949)
21. Holy song: "__ Maria"
22. Mork's planet
25. Like scrambled breakfasts
26. Image of bones
27. __ Plus 2in1 (Shampoo/conditioner brand)
28. Makeup kit item
29. Des'__, British songstress
30. CMs ruler sharers
33. Mere's man
34. 'Origin' suffix
35. Numerous
37. Spar, __ few rounds
38. Angeles intro
39. Splendid, like the Buckingham digs in London, England
41. __ clear (Pristine)
42. Port city in North Africa on the Mediterranean
43. Tin
44. Thanksgiving table decorations
45. High mountain
46. Hit song
47. Mr. Bear of the Arctic
48. Sushi shapes
51. Richard Harris 1977 film
52. "The __" (1993) starring Tom Cruise
53. Rough terrain vehicle
54. Ms. Falco
55. Taken back, as a library book [abbr.]
59. Left opp. [pl.]

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
A certain individual may not deserve your support but you will give it anyway. Chances are you will be in need of assistance yourself and you are more likely to get it if others think they owe you something.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Make sure you spend time planning — it will help you to get twice as much done. The Sun in Libra increases your workload, so you have got to think ahead.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You will get every opportunity to show that you have what it takes. But being the boss is not just about giving orders — it's also about making others understand and respect you.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
The thing you most want to avoid is the thing you most need to face. It is not going to go away on its own, so toughen up and tackle it head on.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Friends will go out of their way to assist you over today, so don't sit there pretending that everything is fine because you know that it isn't and so do they. You need help.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you need to persuade someone to give you something today you will find just the right combination of words and body language to make it happen. Whatever it is you desire they will feel it is their duty to provide it for you.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You are beginning to believe that your luck has changed and that you are on the verge of something amazing — you're right. Keep doing the everyday things that will make it happen.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You are worrying about things that will probably never happen. Fortunately, your worries will fade over the weekend.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You seem extremely pleased with yourself — and with good reason. You have at last found what it is you should be doing with your life and are in the process of making magnificent plans. Think them through.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The planets indicate that you will find the courage to make the kind of difficult decision that most people would prefer not to think about. Change is something to be welcomed.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
End the week in a positive frame of mind and you will accomplish great things over the weekend. Remember, it's not what happens that matters — it's the way you choose to react.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You may not be able to explain how you reach a certain conclusion but your instincts tell you it is right, so trust them. Financial matters are especially well starred — if you act on your subconscious promptings.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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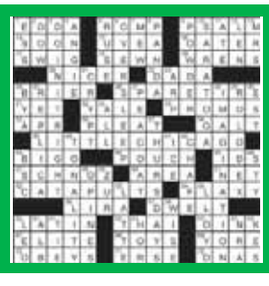

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